Time series data generated by CGWB and the States is used in assessment of replenishable ground water resources in the country and categorization of assessment units-based on decline in ground water levels and stage of ground water development. These form the basis for planning ground water development and management by the Central Government/States.

(d) The measures taken by the Government for ensuring sustained development of ground water resources in the country include:—

- Implementation of demonstrative artificial recharge projects by CGWB.
- Implementation of scheme for "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells" in 7 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- Implementation of scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies to help water conservation and ground water recharge.
- Implementation of Farmers Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP) aimed at creating awareness about water conservation practices.
- Circulation of 'Model Bill' to enable States/Union Territories to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- Setting up of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for the purpose of regulation of ground water management and development in the country.
- Organization of mass awareness programmes on Water Management, Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge of Ground Water.
- 18 States and 4 UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory under building bye-laws.

Hydro projects

886. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Tista river is changing its course after construction of several hydro projects over it;

(b) whether Government is also aware that several villages like Laltung, Chamakdangi, Dashmile, Forest Basti, Lagayat, 31 Highway and Karate are facing danger because of Tista river changing its course; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to check this type of danger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to severe floods in Teesta river experienced in flood seasons of 2007 and 2008, the villages, namely, Laltung, Chamakdangi, Dashmile, Forest Basti,

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"Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Lagayat, 31, Highway and Karate lying on the right bank of the river Teesta in West Bengal faced danger due to severe bank erosion. Flood Management being the State subject, the State Government of West Bengal has prepared requisite flood protection schemes for protection of the affected villages/areas amounting to Rs. 1720.33 lakh and submitted to Brahmaputra Board.

Declining in flow of river water

†887. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flow of water is declining in Indian rivers due to climate change; and

(b) whether Government is taking any measure to augment this important source of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The analysis of the average annual flow data of major rivers in the country does not indicate any significant decreasing trend.

(b) With a view to augment the water resources for utilization for various purposes, several measures are undertaken by respective State Governments which, *inter-alia*, include conservation of water resources through reservoir, traditional water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

Protection of sea erosion

888. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of State Government of Gujarat for protection of sea erosion pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat had initially submitted a proposal indicating the requirement of funds for Anti-Sea Erosion works amounting to Rs. 530.20 cr to Central Water Commission (CWC) in July' 2008 for external assistance under the 'National Coastal Protection Project'. The proposal was examined and comments were offered by CWC to the Government of Gujarat suggesting necessary modifications. In the meantime, anti-sea erosion schemes amounting to Rs. 50.45 crore were submitted by the State Government to Central Water Commission for techno-economic examination and for consideration under Flood Management Programme – a State sector scheme approved during Eleventh Plan by the Cabinet. Out of the 10 schemes, one scheme has been cleared by CWC and sent to the Planning Commission

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.